

7/26/10 (29)

**Christine Joyce**

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**From:** Jennifer Friedman  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2010 1:01 PM  
**To:** Christine Joyce  
**Subject:** Citizens' Library Landmark Sign

Attached is a memo regarding obtaining landmark sign status for a proposed Citizens' Library Historic Marker. Also attached are 2 different copies of the sign for review by the HAD and a graphic depicting the placement of the sign on the building. We are looking for the selectmen to approve landmark status for the sign. I believe this can go on the consent agenda but I'm not sure. Let me know if it can't and if not what time I should be there for the discussion. Thanks.

**Jennifer Friedman**

Library Director  
West Acton Citizens' Library  
21 Windsor Ave.  
Acton, MA 01720  
978-929-6654

7/22/2010

## Christine Joyce

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**From:** Roland Bartl  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2010 1:48 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Friedman; Historic District Commission  
**Cc:** Manager Department; Scott Mutch  
**Subject:** RE: Citizens' Library Sign

While the Board of Selectmen may designate this proposed sign as a landmark sign, such action is not necessary from a zoning perspective. From the best I can tell, the only dimension of the proposed sign that does not comply with the by-right requirements of the zoning bylaw is the proposed height - greater than two feet. This would require a Planning Board special permit under which the height could be increased to not more than 3 feet. However, where as in this case the sign is proposed in a Local Historic District the zoning bylaw abdicates the special permit authority and delegates jurisdiction to the Historic District Commission, who can act under its Chapter P authority to approve the sign within the extended special permit parameters of the zoning bylaw - here to allow the sign up to 3 feet high - provided of course the sign otherwise meets the Historic District Commissions standards.

Roland Bartl, AICP  
Planning Director  
472 Main Street  
Acton, MA 01720  
(978) 264-9636

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**From:** Jennifer Friedman  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2010 1:06 PM  
**To:** Historic District Commission  
**Cc:** Roland Bartl  
**Subject:** Citizens' Library Sign

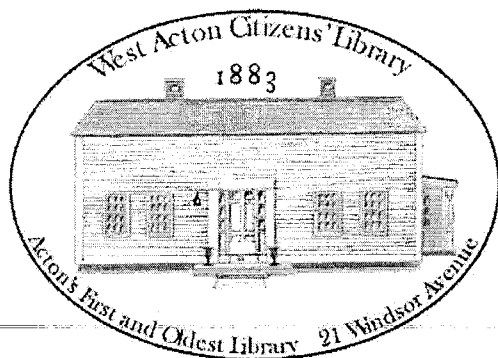
Hi Kathy,

Attached are two versions of the sign - the one you saw at the last meeting and the one with the changes. I also attached the memo to the Selectmen regarding Landmark status for the sign. I expect to be on their agenda Monday night. I am all set to be back at HDC at 8:00pm Tuesday night. Thanks.

## Jennifer Friedman

Library Director  
West Acton Citizens' Library  
21 Windsor Ave.  
Acton, MA 01720  
978-929-6654

7/22/2010



## **Interdepartmental Communication**

**To:** Board of Selectmen  
**From:** Citizens' Library  
**Subject:** Landmark Sign – Zoning Bylaws 7.5.8

**Date:** 07/23/10

The Citizens' Library Trustees would like to put an historic marker sign on the library building. Attached please find a copy of the sign as well as a sketch of the library building with the sign drawn to scale and in the position we would like to hang it. We have verbal assurance from the Town Planning Department that the sign will not violate any zoning bylaws and are currently working with the Historic District Commission to finalize the design. Given the content and purpose of the sign, we feel it is both necessary and appropriate for it to be granted the status of a Landmark Sign according to the Zoning Bylaws section 7.5.8.

We understand that even with Landmark Sign status, we will need a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic District Commission and we intend continue working with HDC toward that end.

Thank You,

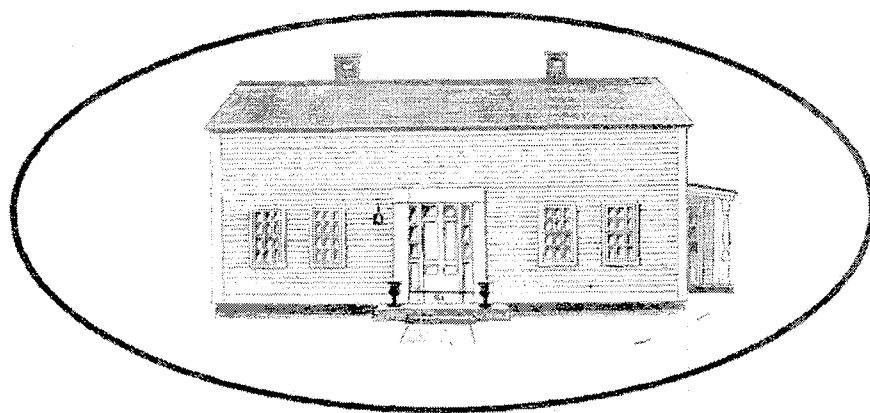
Nancy Lenicheck – Chairperson  
Ellen Spero – Secretary  
Gerald Browne – Member

Draft +

# CITIZENS' LIBRARY

## ACTON'S FIRST AND OLDEST PUBLIC LIBRARY

ESTABLISHED  
OCT. 6, 1883

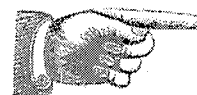


ON THIS DATE, A GROUP OF WEST ACTON RESIDENTS FOUNDED THE CITIZENS' LIBRARY. ONE MONTH LATER, THE LIBRARY OPENED IN A ROOM ABOVE THE OLD POST OFFICE ON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE.

IN 1894, FOUNDING MEMBER PHINEAS WETHERBEE DIED AND BEQUEATHED HIS HOUSE (C.1840) TO THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. THE WETHERBEE HOUSE BECAME THE PERMANENT HOME FOR THE LIBRARY, AND THE BOOK COLLECTION WAS MOVED HERE IN 1900.

THE ORIGINAL CHARTER HANGS IN THE READING ROOM.

### ENTER AROUND CORNER

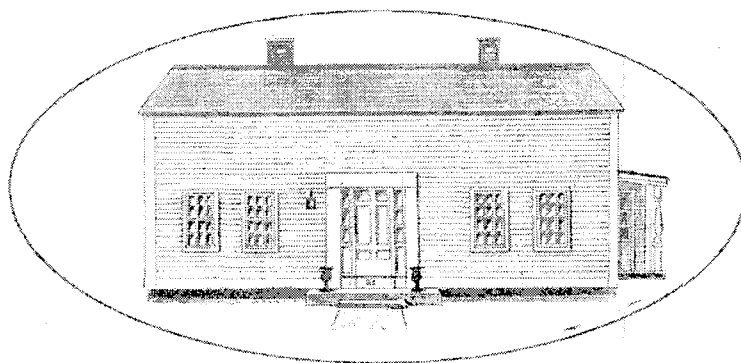


Draft 2 with changes

# CITIZENS' LIBRARY

## ACTON'S FIRST AND OLDEST PUBLIC LIBRARY

ESTABLISHED  
OCT. 6, 1883



On this date, a group of West Acton residents founded the Citizens' Library. One month later, the library opened in a room above the old Post Office on Massachusetts Avenue.

In 1894, founding member Phineas Wetherbee died and bequeathed his house (c.1840) to the Library Association. The Wetherbee house became the permanent home for the library, and the book collection was moved here in 1900.

The original charter hangs in the reading room.

ENTER AROUND CORNER



